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Submitted by: Margaret M. Fox		Esquire SC Bar Number: 65418			
Address:	McNair Law Fir	m, P.A.	Felephone:	803-799-9800	)
	Post Office Box 1		Fax:	803-753-3219	<u> </u>
	Columbia, SC 2		Other:		
NOTE: The cover of	hoat and information a	ontained herein neither replaces i		nenair.net	of pleadings or other papers
Other:	elief demanded in p		RE OF ACTIO		's Agenda expeditiously t apply)
☐ Electric		□ Affidavit	Letter		Request
Electric/Gas		Agreement	Memorandu	m	Request for Certification
Electric/Telecor	nmunications	Answer	Motion		Request for Investigation
Electric/Water		Appellate Review	Objection		Resale Agreement
☐ Electric/Water/	Telecom.	Application	Petition		Resale Amendment
☐ Electric/Water/S	Sewer	Brief	Petition for l	Reconsideration	Reservation Letter
Gas		Certificate	Petition for l	Rulemaking	Response
Railroad		Comments	Petition for R	ule to Show Cause	Response to Discovery
Sewer		Complaint	Petition to In	ntervene	Return to Petition
	tions	Consent Order	Petition to Int	ervene Out of Time	Stipulation
Transportation		Discovery	Prefiled Tes	timony	Subpoena
☐ Water		Exhibit	Promotion		Tariff
Water/Sewer		Expedited Consideration	Proposed Or	der	Other:
Administrative Matter		Interconnection Agreement	Protest		
Other:		Interconnection Amendment	Publisher's A	Affidavit	
·		Late-Filed Exhibit	☐ Report		•

#### BEFORE

# THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2009-500-C

Re:	Application of Georgia Business Net Telecommunications	)	
	for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to	) .	
	Provide Facilities-based and Resold Local Exchange and	)	
	Intrastate, Interexchange Telecommunications and Data	)	STIPULATION
	Communications Services in the State of South Carolina	)	
		)	

The South Carolina Telephone Coalition ("SCTC") (see attachment "A" for list of companies) and Georgia Business Net Telecommunications, LLC ("Georgia Business Net") hereby enter into the following stipulations. As a consequence of these stipulations and conditions, SCTC does not oppose Georgia Business Net's Application. SCTC and Georgia Business Net stipulate and agree as follows:

- 1. SCTC does not oppose the granting of a statewide Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Georgia Business Net, provided the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission") makes the necessary findings to justify granting of such a certificate, and provided the conditions contained within this stipulation are met.
- 2. Georgia Business Net stipulates and agrees that any Certificate which may be granted will authorize Georgia Business Net to provide service only to customers located in non-rural local exchange company ("LEC") service areas of South Carolina, except as provided herein.
- 3. Georgia Business Net stipulates that it is not asking the Commission to make a finding at this time regarding whether competition is in the public interest for rural areas.
- 4. Georgia Business Net stipulates and agrees that it will not provide any local service, by its own facilities or otherwise, to any customer located in a rural incumbent LEC's service area,

unless and until Georgia Business Net provides such rural incumbent LEC and the Commission with written notice of its intent to do so at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the intended service. During such notice period, the rural incumbent LEC will have the opportunity to petition the Commission to exercise all rights afforded it under Federal and State law. Also, Georgia Business Net acknowledges that the Commission may suspend the intended date for service in rural LEC territory for ninety (90) days while the Commission conducts any proceeding incident to the Petition or upon the Commission's own Motion, provided that the Commission can further suspend the implementation date upon showing of good cause.

- 5. Georgia Business Net stipulates and agrees that, if Georgia Business Net gives notice that it intends to serve a customer located in a rural incumbent LEC's service area, and either (a) the Commission receives a Petition from the rural incumbent LEC to exercise its rights under Federal or State law within such 30-day period, or (b) the Commission institutes a proceeding of its own, then Georgia Business Net will not provide service to any customer located within the service area in question without prior and further Commission approval.
- 6. Georgia Business Net acknowledges that any right which it may have or acquire to serve a rural telephone company service area in South Carolina is subject to the conditions contained herein, and to any future policies, procedures, and guidelines relevant to such proposed service which the Commission may implement, so long as such policies, procedures, and guidelines do not conflict with Federal or State law.
- 7. The parties stipulate and agree that all rights under Federal and State law are reserved to the rural incumbent LECs and Georgia Business Net, and this Stipulation in no way suspends or adversely affects such rights, including any exemptions, suspensions, or modifications to which they may be entitled.

- 8. Georgia Business Net agrees to abide by all State and Federal laws and to participate, to the extent it may be required to do so by the Commission, in the support of universally available telephone service at affordable rates.
- 9. Georgia Business Net hereby amends its application and its prefiled testimony in this docket to the extent necessary to conform with this Stipulation.

AGREED AND STIPULATED to this 4th day of February 2010 2009.

Georgia Business Net Telecommunications, LLC:

John J. Pringle, Jr., Esquire

Ellis Lawhorne & Sims, P.A.

Post Office Box 2285

Columbia, South Carolina 29202

(803) 254-4190

Attorneys for Applicant Georgia Business Net Telecommunications, LLC South Carolina Telephone Coalition:

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Columbia, South Carolina 29211

(803) 799-9800

Attorneys for the South Carolina Telephone Coalition

### ATTACHMENT A

## South Carolina Telephone Coalition Member Companies for Purposes of Local Service Stipulation

Chesnee Telephone Company

Chester Telephone Company

Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Ft. Mill Telephone Company

Home Telephone Company, Inc.

Lancaster Telephone Company

Lockhart Telephone Company

McClellanville Telephone Company

Norway Telephone Company

Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Piedmont Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Pond Branch Telephone Company

Ridgeway Telephone Company

Rock Hill Telephone Company

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

St. Stephen Telephone Company

West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Williston Telephone Company

### **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2009-500-C

Re:	Application of Georgia Business Net Telecommunications	)
	for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to	)
	Provide Facilities-based and Resold Local Exchange and	)
	Intrastate, Interexchange Telecommunications and Data	)
	Communications Services in the State of South Carolina	)
		_ )

I, ElizaBeth A. Blitch, do hereby certify that I have this date served one (1) copy of the foregoing Stipulation upon the following party of record by causing said copy to be deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and affixed thereto, and addressed as follows:

John J. Pringle, Jr., Esquire Ellis, Lawhorne & Sims, P.A. Post Office Box 2285 Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Nanette S. Edwards, Esquire Office of Regulatory Staff Post Office Box 11263 Columbia, South Carolina 29211.

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February 8, 2010

Columbia, South Carolina